

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DHAHRA 00685 150515Z

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 EPG-02 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-15

OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-10 XMB-04

FRB-01 /120 W

-----150521Z 072437 /23

P R 141400Z JUN 77

FM AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5490

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

UNCLAS DHAHRAN 0685

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, SA

SUBJECT: SAUDI OIL PRODUCTION - MAY FIGURES

REF: (A) JIDDA 4117, (B) STATE 136630 (NOTAL)

1. MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND MINERALS, IN PRESS RELEASE, HAS ANNOUNCED THAT DURING MONTH OF MAY SAUDI PETROLEUM PRODUCTION AVERAGED 8,110,622 BPD. ARAMCO PRODUCED 8,022,781 BPD, ARABIAN OIL COMPANY 62,151 BPD AND GETTY 25,690 BPD.

2. SAUDI PRODUCTION FIGURES FOR MAY REPRESENT A 14 PERCENT DECLINE FROM APRIL TOTAL. DECLINE CAN BE ATTRIBUTED ENTIRELY TO PRODUCTION LOSSES AS RESULT OF ABQAIQ FIRE OF MAY 11. PRODUCTION AT THAT FACILITY WAS CUT BY AROUND FIVE MILLION BPD IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE FIRE AND GRADUALLY RESTORED DURING REMAINDER OF
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MONTH. ONLY AT BEGINNING OF JUNE WAS IT POSSIBLE FOR ARAMCO EXECUTIVES TO SAY THAT PRODUCTION WAS RESTORED TO 95 PERCENT OF PRE-FIRE LEVEL. LOSSES IN PRODUCTION WERE APPARENTLY DEEPER THAN ANTICIPATED, AS DURING FIRST TEN DAYS OF MAY DAILY PRODUCTION LEVELS HAD SOARED AT TIMES TO OVER THE ELEVEN MILLION BPD MARK. SINCE PRODUCTION HAD BEEN SO HIGH IN FIRST DAYS OF MAY, ARAMCO EXECUTIVES WERE CONFIDENT THAT THEY WOULD COVER FIRE-CAUSED PRODUCTION LOSSES

AND PERMIT COMPANY TO MATCH IF NOT EXCEED APRIL'S PRODUCTION LEVEL.
BUSHNELL

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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